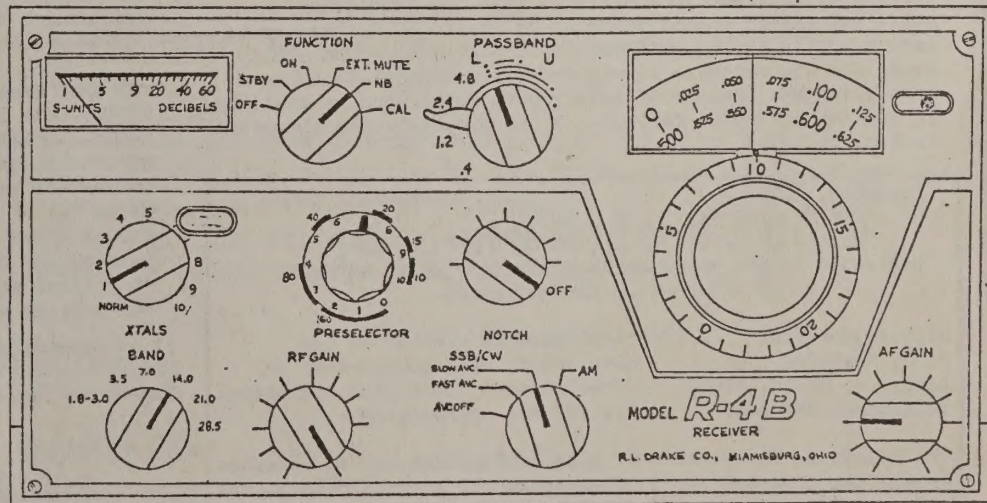
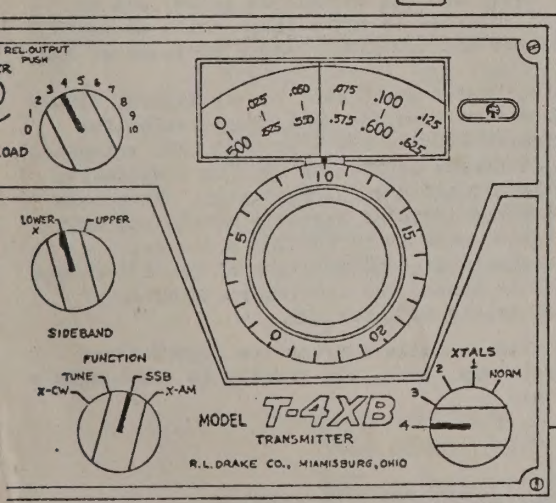
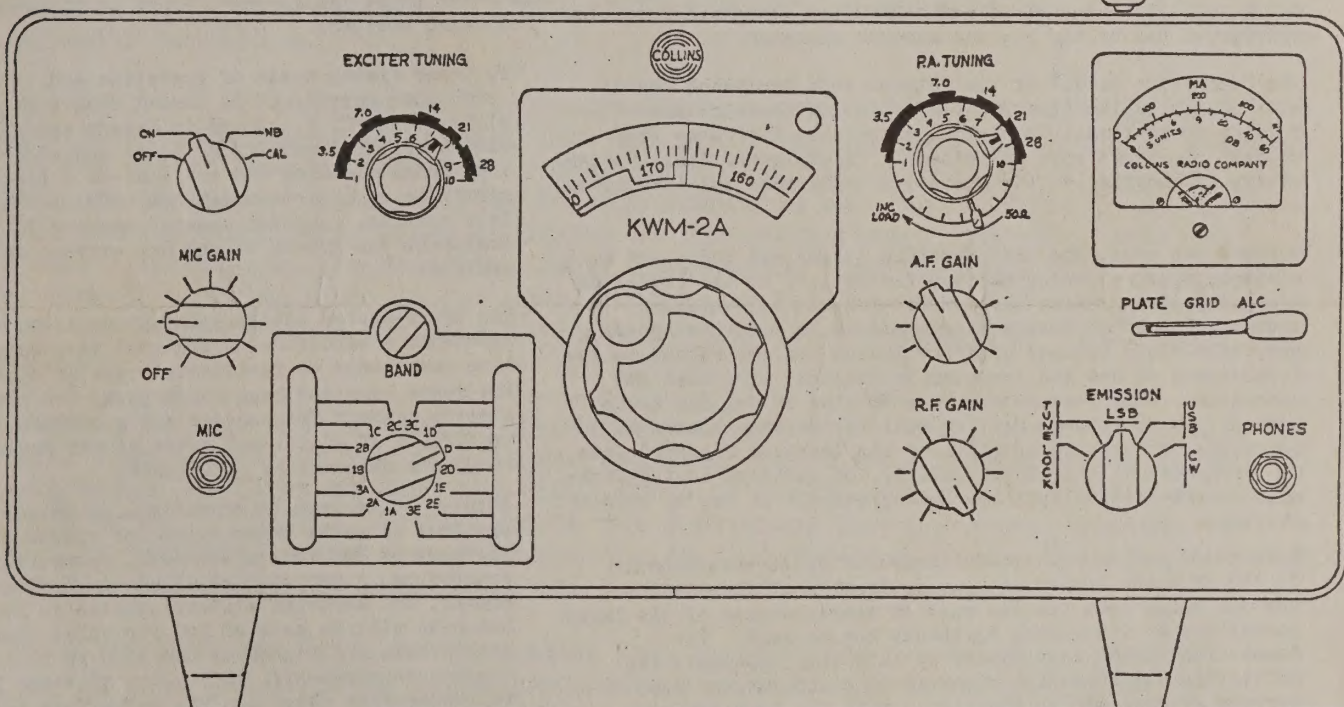
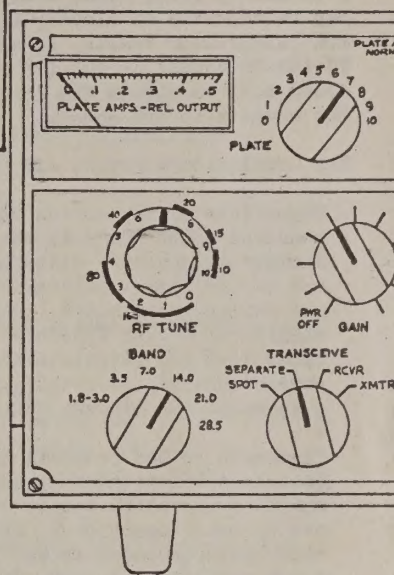


Didi-dum dum-didi

Dedicated to the enhancement of amateur radio through information dissemination.

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FCC Expands Amateur Radio Teleprinter Transmissions:

The Commission took action on Docket 19110 allowing the use additional RTTY speeds in the Amateur Radio Service. Effective Jan. 7, 1972, radio teleprinter signal keying equipment may be adjusted as closely as possible to one of the standard teleprinter speeds, namely 60 (45 bauds), 67 (50 bauds), 75 (56.25 bauds) or 100 (75 bauds) words per minute. The speed must be within the range of plus or minus five WPM of the above standard speeds.

The Commission's Report and Order stated:

Supporters of the notice commented that adoption of the proposal would increase the message handling capability of amateur teleprinter stations and make the most efficient use of air time. Such ability would be especially important during emergencies. Other comments stated that availability of higher speeds of operation would promote experimentation and stimulate the development of new associated amateur skills and techniques in keeping with the basis and purpose of the Amateur Radio Service. ...

Opponents of the proposal alleged that adoption of the increased teleprinter speeds would result in disruption of existing operation due to confusion over which rate is in use by other operators. Other opposing comments stated that most equipment is not convertible to the higher speed modes and that the cost of new high-speed equipment precludes widespread use by the average amateur operator.

The Commission is not of the opinion that increased speeds will result in the disruption of existing amateur teleprinter operations. Commission experience indicates that amateur operators have consistently demonstrated their versatility in adapting to new operating conditions and situations. ...

Suggestions were made that specific speeds and codes not be adopted, thus, allowing greater flexibility in the choice of operating parameters. The American Radio Relay League commented that not restricting amateurs to specific speeds and codes would enhance experimentation and contribute to the development of new and improved techniques, equipment and practices. Other comments were submitted by Collins Radio Company, R. W. Johnson Co., as well as individual amateur operators, supporting adoption of the American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII), in addition to the five-unit (start-stop) teleprinter code presently in use by amateur stations.

Government and non-government users of radio teleprinters in the HF bands conservatively estimate that they will not use the ASCII code for the next 10 years because of the large quantities of five-level equipment now on hand. The Commission has no requirement at this time to supply its monitoring stations with eight-level equipment for the purpose of determining compliance with the Commission's rules and international treaties by stations in these radio services. It is not economically feasible to spend public funds for the purchase of eight-level equipment to be used solely for the purpose of determining compliance by stations in the Amateur Radio Service. These proposals are therefore denied.

December, 1971

Volume III, Issue 10

Didi-dum-dum-didi

Dedicated to the enhancement of amateur radio through information dissemination.

Didi-dum-dum-didi
P. O. Box 2002
Alhambra, Calif. 91803
Telephone: 289-2405

Permission is granted to use material in Didi-dum-dum-didi in other amateur radio club bulletins. Credits are appreciated.

The remaining five issues of Didi-dum-dum-didi may be obtained by sending five addressed, stamped number 10 envelopes to the address above. Attach 8¢ in postage for third class mailing and 16¢ for first class mailing.

ARRL Board of Directors Meeting:

1972 marks the first year the League will hold two annual board meetings under provisions approved at the last annual meeting. Results of the January 20 and 21 meeting are still incomplete but W1AW Official Bulletin of January 22 provides some of the high points. Reports prior to the meeting did indicate votes to dispose of the League President which was apparently reported in the following manner in the bulletin:

The Board of Directors of the American Radio Relay League at its annual meeting in Hartford, Conn. January 20 and 21 revised ARRL administrative structure to meet more effectively the challenges amateur radio will face in the coming decade. After expressing the view that dual responsibilities of ARRL and IARU presidencies have grown beyond the capabilities of one man, Robert W. Denniston, W0DX, declined to be a candidate for reelection as ARRL President. The Board choose Harry J. Dannals, W2TUK, as the new ARRL President, reelected Charles G. Compton, W0BUO, as first vice president, and named Denniston and Roemer O. Best, W5QKF, additional Vice Presidents. President elect Dannals proposed and the Board unanimously voted, to seek approval from IARU Societies of Robert W. Denniston, W0DX, to serve as President of the International Amateur Radio Union.

In other areas the League's Board of Directors took the following actions:

To cover rising costs of operation and to meet future needs effective July 1, 1972, annual dues were raised to \$7.50 in the U. S., \$8.50 in Canada and will be \$9.00 elsewhere. The setting of goals and objectives in long range planning was assigned to a special adhoc committee with recommendations to be submitted at the July meeting. Another special group will promote and implement the growth of the new amateur satellite service.

The VHF repeater Advisory Committee is requested to recommend a structure of regional frequency coordination committees to facilitate repeater operation. The Board examined long range plans for protection of present amateur frequencies and a program for attempting assignment of additional bands at any future high frequency allocations conference.

Studies to be made by committees or others include the problems of parts procurement for constructors, establishment of VHF beacon stations, sponsorship of technical symposiums, a propagation column in QST, and a Herbert Hoover, Jr. memorial amateur station in the west. Requests will be made of FCC for rules changes to permit technicians and higher to use 50.0 to 50.1 MHz, to relax logging requirements, to require filtered DC power supply on frequencies above 144 MHz as well as below, and to grandfather from advanced to extra those with 40 years amateur experience and who have reached 60 years of age.

The ARRL technical merit award went to Mel Wilson, W2BOC/WLDEI. The Board expressed its deep appreciation for dedicated service of elected and appointed ARRL volunteer officials, and it thanks to FCC and DOC for cooperation in amateur regulatory matters the past year. Proposals which failed adoption included separate mobile and RTTY DXCC and WAS awards, cash award for QST articles, putting QST on newstands, and rotation of Board Meetings on a fixed schedule around the continent. Minutes of the meeting will appear in March QST.

It is understood from reliable sources the Southwestern Division Director Griggs, W6KW, was elected to the League's Executive Committee.

amateur radio NEWS

Didi-dum-dum-didi, December, 1971, page 2.

December, 1971

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Dedicated to the enhancement of amateur radio through information dissemination.

Editorial Comment:

The stated policy of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. as quoted from the QST advertising rate card is as follows:

"Advertising is accepted only from firms who, in the publisher's opinion are of established integrity and whose products secure the approval of the technical staff of the American Radio Relay League.¹"

This is an admirable position for the League to assume and certainly in the best interests of its membership and the general amateur radio fraternity if it is actually practiced.

By virtue of an unsigned editorial appearing on page 9 of October, 1971, QST the American Radio Relay League, Inc. has taken another admirable stand. Namely, on the use of greater than legal power inputs, and in particular with regard to such practices while visiting foreign countries and its relation to support for amateur radio from those countries at ITU conferences. "Bravo", said the reader response in the December, 1971, issue under "Correspondence".² But, wait a moment! The applause is for more homebrewing by the amateur fraternity which was also mentioned in the same article, not for the observance of legal power inputs.

Turning to page five of either the October or December, 1971, issue of QST one will find advertised the 3K-A linear amplifier rated at a "conservative three kilowatts PEP input on SSB" and "2000 watts of continuous duty input for either RTTY or CW". If this little item is not sufficient for the reader's needs the ARRL's technical staff also endorses the 4K-A on the same page. The 4K-A is rated at four kilowatts PEP input with one hundred watts of drive power.

Does the American Radio Relay League, Inc. endorse the use of super power by amateurs in the U. S. A. but not overseas when visiting other countries? I seriously doubt this in the actual intended result, but it would be appropriate for the League give more consideration to the growing use of super power by many amateurs in the United States.

The Federal Communications Commission does not appear poised to take action on this practice and a continued permissive attitude by the fraternity in this matter may severely handicap the amateur radio fraternity in future proceedings before the Commission. It is reasonable that the fraternity expect the American Radio Relay League to provide guidance in approaching this problem's solution.

Harvey Hetland, WA6KZI

¹See June, 1971, QST page 148

²Dec., 1971, QST, p. 72.

Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

By Kathy Braunstein, WB6BOY
(Reprinted from the December, 1971,
Palisades ARC Bulletin.)

The Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs, Inc. is comprised of delegates from any bona fide amateur radio club which wishes to belong and of a few officials of the ARRL who are considered delegates-at-large. Of the over 100 amateur organizations in the Los Angeles area, only 50 are now members of the Council. Its by-laws were adopted in 1953 and at one time it functioned as an important and powerful organization. These days it seems to fall short of its real potential. At the November 18 meeting, only about 14 delegates attended. And some of the radio clubs who do belong apparently don't consider it important enough to send their own representative, since one delegate appears as a representative of three separate organizations.

With the notable exception of the Palisades ARC, several of the local radio clubs are suffering from loss in membership not to mention the obvious lack of ham-oriented activities. And Los Angeles has already developed a reputation for its absence of local hamfest with the exception of Lockheed's. Surely the Council can do something to cure these and the multitude of other ills affecting the organizations it represents.

How about sponsoring some intra-club contests between its members to stimulate local activity and encourage club spirit? Perhaps it could stimulate and coordinate joint activities between some of its smaller members who lack the membership to have certain activities on their own, but could do so successfully in conjunction with another club or two. Even the Palisades ARC could have used this type of help last year when we tried unsuccessfully to get together 40 hams who wanted to take a bus to SAROC. With the backing of an active Council, possibly we could have pooled our efforts with the other local clubs and with the combined draw, filled at least one bus with ease.

Another common problem shared by radio clubs is a financial one -- that of the club bulletin taking the lion's share of the treasury. Perhaps the L. A. Council could solicit advertising based on the total membership of its clubs and distribute the advertising for use on each member's own bulletin. The income from the advertising would be distributed proportionately with the membership of each club. This would give manufacturers and distributors an opportunity for some localized advertising and, most important, give smaller clubs an opportunity to receive advertising revenue otherwise unavailable to them.

These are just a few of the many steps that the Council could take to help its members and improve its image. But, like all governing bodies, it is not to blame, "People get the kind of government they deserve" and the L. A. Council is no exception. Those clubs who fail to send a representative to meetings have no legitimate complaint. And those clubs who do send a representative, but take little interest in his reports and do not advise or encourage him to take any action, are not much better off. The Council could and should be an important tool to be used by the Palisades ARC and all other Council members. If it bails to serve its members to its fullest potential, they have no one to blame but themselves.

Didi-dumdum-didi, December, 1971

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Dedicated to the enhancement of amateur radio through information dissemination.

Must Amateurs be amateurs?

By Clyde Penney, W4HLQ

Reprinted from the December, 1971,

"Round Table" published by the Denver RC.

From some operating practices and lack of courtesy heard on the air every day, one would be inclined to say "yes". However, I don't subscribe to this point of view. I feel that Amateurs can be "professionals" in their approach to communications. Mr. Webster defines a professional as one who makes a business of something that others do for pleasure. He further defines professionalism as the practice or methods of a professional, as distinguished from those of an amateur. In other words, in the broad sense of the word, a professional is one who attempts to bring perfection and efficiency to whatever task he undertakes.

Now the overwhelming majority of Amateurs do acquire a degree of professionalism in their operating practices. They take great pride in this professionalism, and justifiably so. However, there are still a few Amateurs who remain "amateurs" in their operating practices and this is a most deplorable situation. Such Amateurs give a bad name to the entire fraternity.

So let us all, each and everyone, examine his or her operating practices. Let's renew our efforts as individuals, to be courteous on the air. Lend a helping hand to newly licensed Amateurs just starting out. Encourage young and old who are interested in becoming licensed Amateurs. Operate a safe station. Strive for perfection in operating practices. Always place a clean, sharp, crisp signal on the air. Do all tune-ups and loading on a dummy load. Comply with FCC rules and regulations relative to power, signal quality, identification, etc. Always listen before transmitting on any frequency. In other words, strive always to be a "professional" Amateur.

A. Prose Walker at SAROC: Since A. Prose Walker, W4BW, spoke before the SAROC Convention considerable comment has been generated in the amateur radio rumor mills. Mr. Walker is employed by the FCC and he has in his area of responsibility that portion of the Commission's staff that handles the affairs of the Amateur Radio Service. Naturally he commands attention when he speaks of matters concerning regulatory matters. Quoting from the Jan. 25, '72 issue of the "West Coast DX Bulletin":

FCC...Third Hand That's the way we got it so we will pass it along that way. At the SAROC meeting in Las Vegas earlier this month, Prose Walker was the speaker. The Story as relayed said that:

The Repeater Docket before the FCC will be accepted...there will be some expansions of the phone bands when the FCC rules on that one though how much not clear; the Conditional Class license may be on the way out; there may be an increasing emphasis on the checking of logs prior to renewal and possible spot checks of c. w. speed; there is consideration to the reissuance of all call-signs with new combination of prefixes to designate the class (of) license. These are what came to the surface...possibly more details will pop up soon.

It should be noted that, for example, for the FCC's staff to bring about the elimination of the Conditional Class License it would be necessary to subject the proposal to rulemaking proceedings at which time all interested parties could participate.

Didi-dumdum-didi, December, 1971

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Dedicated to the enhancement of amateur radio through information dissemination.

The ARRL DX Advisory Committee:

Editorial Comment

By W6NJU, reprinted from the Jan, 1972,
issue of the So. Cal. DX Club BULLETIN.

One year ago, in January 1971, ARRL President Denniston announced the appointment of a DX Advisory Committee. The Southern California DX Club worked for many years for this, and our Director, John Griggs, spearheaded our efforts for a DX Committee. Yet, after a year, what progress has been made in the field of DX?

Apparently no recommendations have been made by the Committee and very little has been heard from them. League President Denniston has just announced that this same Committee will serve during 1972

Those interested in getting some action from the Committee are urged to contact their local representative (W6RGG) or perhaps contact the Committee Chairman (W4QCW) and insist on the prompt consideration of proposals. We have worked hard for this Committee and it would be a shame to let it die without a single action being taken by them.

LATE TIDBITS: (Jan. 24, 1972)

Newly elected officers of the Los Angeles Area Council of Radio Clubs are W6LPJ, Chairman, and WA6WPX, Vice Chairman. Secretary is WA6DZR.

The Downey Radio Club has an interesting program scheduled for February 22, 1972, 7:30 P.M. at the Yale Engineering Building, 12405 South Woodruff, Downey:

Their tentative program will be by Bruce Clark, K6JYO, a regular author of articles appearing in "Ham Radio". He will describe the different types of speech compressors and limiters including advantages and disadvantages of each in talk entitled "Speech Limiters". Contact WB6GJW for more information.

Members of the Antelope Valley RC (Lancaster, Calif) "enjoyed" a white Christmas of 9 to 15 inches of snow.

The Palomar Radio Club is constructing a 2 meter repeater for installation at Mount Palomar.

Results of the fourth annual ARNS publications contest were announced and Didi-dumdum-didi managed to get "Best Overall, Class Multiple B". Doesn't amount to much, however. Seems we were the only one to enter in that class, but at least they spelled the name of our publication correctly this year on the certificate, hi.

The next issue of Didi to be printed will be a combined January-February, 1972, edition. As to when it will be printed remains top secret (even to the editor).

We will print when there is enough information to warrant publication of a bulletin. Our regular feature of reviewing Director's Letters has been discontinued, because we have been unable to secure the loan of these items in recent months.

Didi-dumdum-didi, December, 1971

Dedicated to the enhancement of amateur radio through information dissemination.

FCC Report:

By Bill Grenfell, W4GF

(Reprinted from December, 1971, Auto-Call.)

If you will look carefully at your amateur license on FCC Form 660 you will see under the "Conditions of Grant" on the back that the document authorizes "the person named herein" to operate "an amateur station licensed by this Commission" if a class of operator privileges is indicated, and authorizes the establishment of a station if a call sign is specified. Thus most amateurs possessing a valid Form 660 usually have, in effect, both an operator license and a station license on one piece of paper.

Section 97.81 of the FCC rules is titled "Authorized apparatus" and states: "An amateur station license authorizes the use under control of the licensee of all transmitting apparatus at the fixed location specified in the station license which is operated on any frequency, or frequencies allocated to the amateur service, and in addition authorizes the use, under control of the licensee, of portable and mobile transmitting apparatus operated at other locations". (The underlines were added by me for emphasis.)

Probably the most frequently asked question about the amateur rules is, "Which call sign should or can I use when visiting and using the rig at another amateur's station?" Although it may not seem so, Section 97.81 provides the answer where it requires "use under control of the licensee". This is referring to the station license. To be able to control his station, the station licensee would have to be present at the station location. It is the station licensee who is responsible to the FCC for the transmissions from the station identified by his call sign and this includes being able to shut it down promptly if some other person operating it violates the rules. Therefore the visiting amateur may use his host's call sign only if the host is present. If the host is away, the operation of his equipment must be identified by and under the authority of the visiting amateur's call sign and station license - using portable procedures.

After the above is recited, the next question usually asked is how do you log such operation. Since it is a log of station operation, the visiting amateur should log any operation under his own call sign and keep that log with the rest of his station log as required by Section 97.105 (for at least a year). Any use of the host's call sign by the visitor should be entered in the host's station log by the operator. If the host personally wants a record of the operation of his equipment while he is away, that is up to him. It is not required of him by the rules.

The next question asked usually is, "How does this apply to a club station?" The answer is, it doesn't. By its very nature, a club station is intended for operation by a number of persons who are members of the club and who are at least qualified as operators. It is up to the club trustee to permit operation only by members who will be properly responsible to him for their operation.

-Gf-

An item in the December, 1971, issue of "The Round Table" published by the Denver Radio Club noted the following:

"A petition has been filed with the FCC to prohibit delivery of amateur radiograms by a collect phone call except where specifically authorized by either party."

JAN 21A

Didi-dumdum-didi, December, 1971

Dedicated to the enhancement of amateur radio through information dissemination. page eight

From the Editor's Desk:

The Didi Swan Song.

Very much like the youngster who finds it very difficult to admit that bedtime has arrived, I as editor of this rag for the past three years have been forced to the realization that Didi-dumdum-didi has reached a point where it can no longer function as intended. Didi-dumdum-didi was founded in early 1969 as an information bulletin.

However, with inadequate news and information inputs it has become increasingly more difficult to properly perform the functions of an information bulletin, and we merely repeat material from other sources in the same way as an average club bulletin does. For the moment only five more issues of Didi-dumdum-didi are planned. Those whose subscription expires prior to the final issue will be provided the opportunity to receive the final issues if they provide us with suitable SASEs.

Publishing of Didi-dumdum-didi has been a great deal of fun, and I have certainly enjoyed doing it. I'll look forward to future QSOs with our reader on the air.

73,

Harvey, WACKZI/WB6SLG

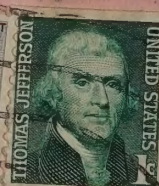
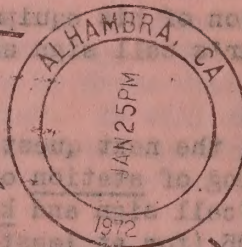
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